

Water pressure management

Making your water supply more reliable and saving water

Water pressure management ensures a stable constant water supply to our customers at consistent pressure. High water pressure contributes to burst water mains, leaks and wastes water. By using pressure regulating valves and system monitoring, Sydney Water can maintain a more consistent pressure across our water networks, reducing main breaks.

As well as saving water and creating a more consistent and reliable service, reducing main breaks means fewer traffic disruptions and less damage to footpaths and roads.

In areas where we've already adjusted the water pressure, there are now fewer water main breaks and interruptions to water services. Sydney Water has saved an average of 30 million litres of water each day, since 2006 from managing water pressure.

What is water pressure?

Water pressure is the force needed to move the water from our mains into your pipes.

How could water pressure management affect me?

Most residents and businesses in pressure managed areas will not be significantly affected. Reducing the water pressure doesn't mean you'll have less water. You may need to turn on the tap more, and it could take a little longer to fill a bath or washing machine.

In areas where we manage water pressure, we work with our customers to help prepare for any changes in pressure. Some instantaneous hot water systems, corroded galvanised pipes or existing pressure reducing valves may not work as effectively with reduced water pressure. If you have these, you may need to upgrade them.

Private infrastructure (like a fire protection system) that depends on water pressure may also be affected. Property owners are responsible for the design and working order of fire protection systems and other water pressure dependent systems and devices on their property.

What should I do if I have a water pressure problem?

If you experience any water pressure issues check:

- the tap on your water meter that controls flow to your property is fully turned on
- any taps that control flow to your hot water system and other devices are fully turned on.

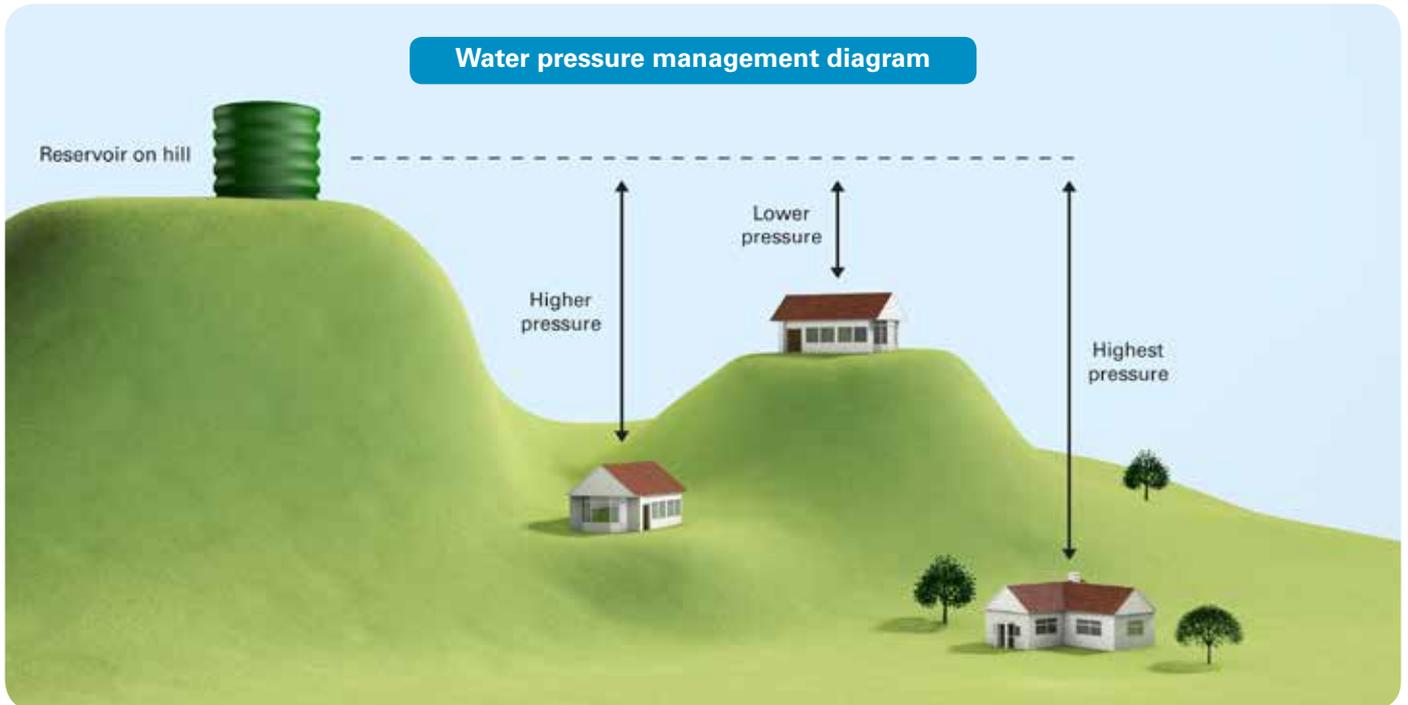
If you still have water pressure problems, call 1300 466 820.

Where is Sydney Water managing water pressure?

We target areas where water pressure levels are higher than average. Visit sydneywater.com.au to see where we are managing water pressure.

Why do some areas have higher pressure than others?

Water is distributed to customers through a network of water supply zones. Water reservoirs are located at high points in each water supply zone. Water is distributed from the reservoir across the zone using gravity. Water pressure varies at different locations in the zone depending on how far you are from the reservoir and your property's elevation in relation to the reservoir.



This means properties in low areas receive higher water pressure. Properties in high areas receive lower water pressure.

What should my water pressure be?

Most Sydney properties receive water pressure of between 15 metres (m) and 65 m head. The current overall average pressure across Sydney Water's area of operations is 52 m.

Sydney Water will continue to meet our *Operating Licence* – ensuring no less than 15 m of pressure at the water main connection point under normal conditions for all properties.

What does 'head of pressure' mean?

If you have a swimming pool that is 10 m deep, 10 m 'head' is the pressure at the bottom of the pool.

Contact us

To know more about water pressure management in your area:
call 1300 466 820 or visit sydneywater.com.au

For general enquiries:
Visit sydneywater.com.au
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